

RESPONSE

In the office action, claims 1-9 and 11-15 are pending. Claims 16 and 17 are added herein.

As a first matter, the abstract of the disclosure has been objected to for not being printed on a separate page and for containing extraneous text. Applicants note that on page 4 of the Preliminary Amendment submitted October 29, 2001, an Abstract was added on a separate page after the claims. However, for convenience, the amendment adding an abstract has been repeated herein.

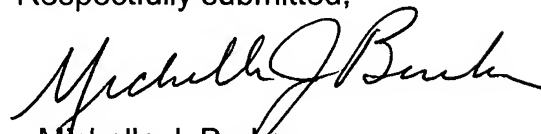
Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, 11-13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Moyer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,078,118). Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 9, 11-13 and 15 are also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Moyer. These rejections are respectfully traversed. Moyer relates to pentaerythritol esters used in radiation curable coatings, especially in combination with a polyene. Oxidative drying is not used as a drying mechanism. As admitted in the office action, Moyer does not teach polycarboxylic acid components for the disclosed compounds. Thus, Moyer does not anticipate claim 1 as presently amended.

Claims 8 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Moyer, further in view of Ostlie (U.S. Patent No. 5,876,805). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Ostlie is cited as disclosing visible light polymerizable thiol-ene compositions having an acyl phosphine oxide photoinitiator, thereby teaching one skilled in the art the use of such compounds as photoinitiators in thiol-ene compositions. However, claims 8 and 14 are dependent upon claim 1. Claim 1 is believed to be allowable over Moyer for the reasons set forth above. The teachings of Ostlie do not overcome the deficiencies of Moyer. Thus, claims 8 and 14 are non-obvious over Moyer in view of Ostlie.

Claims 4 and 6 are objected to as being dependent upon rejected claim 1, but are stated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. As present claim 1 is believed allowable for the reasons set forth above, claims 4 and 6 are also believed to be allowable as dependent claims.

Thus, as discussed above, the present claims are allowable over the cited art. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michelle J. Burke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michelle" and last name "Burke" being clearly legible.

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